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Had successes, failures

Ex-spy chief Allen Dulles dies

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WASHINGTON — Allen W.

Dulles played the deadly game of espionage over two decades and emerged unscratched.

The flu and pneumonia brought him down last night at 75.

His failures trumpeted, his successes unheralded, Dulles directed the Central Intelligence Agency for eight years until retiring in 1961.

A member of a family which produced three secretaries of state—for Presidents Benjamin Harrison, Woodrow Wilson and Dwight D. Eisenhower—he was a tweedy, pipesmoking, scholarly practitioner of "the craft of intelligence" since the start of World War II. Pravda once said that if he ever got to Heaven he would probably "slaughter the angels."

DULLES, ailing for several years, suffered a mild stroke a little more than a year ago and had been hospitalized with the flu since Christmas Eve.

In a statement, President Nixon said Dulles had made "the world a safer place" although

of the nature of his work his achievements "were known to only a few."

Dulles was the brother of John Foster Dulles, secretary of state in the Eisenhower administration; the nephew of Robert Lansing, secretary of state under Woodrow Wilson, and the grandson of John Watson Foster, secretary of state under Benjamin Harrison.

Dulles continued to serve the government even after his retirement in November 1961, less than a year after the disaster of the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba by a band of Cuban guerrillas trained in part by the CIA.

HE served on the Warren Commission and firmly subscribed to its belief that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

Criticism was leveled at him for permitting Francis Gary Powers' U2 flight over Russia to occur on the eve of a summit meeting between Eisenhower and then Soviet premier Nikita S. Khrushchev in Paris in 1960.

The Soviet government had known for years about the CIA-



Allen W. Dulles

... ex-CIA chief

directed spy flights, Dulles said, but never complained because they did not want to advertise their inability to bring down the high-flying, camera-carrying planes.

But Dulles had his successes, too, during his eight years as America's intelligence chief, even if he rarely could brag of them. He once said he was "willing to accept the charge" that his agency produced the secret speech in 1956 in which Khrushchev denounced the evils of Stalin, a turning point in Communist history.

DULLES said that was "one of the really important accomplishments of the CIA. In his book, "The Craft of Intelligence," he said the CIA had managed to catch up with the intelligence skills of other countries within a generation. He called Soviet intelligence overconfident.

Dulles entered the U.S. diplomatic service in 1916 and was assigned to Vienna. He served at the Versailles Peace Conference after World War I.

He returned to government in World War II in the Office of Strategic Services, where he

planted a spy in the Nazi foreign office, gaining for the Allies access to every message that left Von Ribbentrop's desk.

He filed the first reports on Nazi rocket experiments and the V2 bases being set up in Germany for a rocket attack against England and through Gestapo channels negotiated the surrender of a million German troops in Italy nearly a week before V-E Day.

HE returned to intelligence work in 1948 when Defense Secretary James V. Forrestal appointed him to a special committee to coordinate civilian and military intelligence.

"We are not thick skinned," he once commented. "We have been caught by surprise. But we are not caught by surprise quite as often as some of the press say we are."

Dulles is survived by his widow, the former Clover Todd, two daughters, Mrs. Joan Buresch of Zurich, Switzerland, and Mrs. Clover D. Jebson of New York; a son, Allen, at home in Washington; three sisters, Mrs. Eleanor Lansing Dulles, a retired diplomat, of McLean, Va.; Mrs. Margaret Edwards of Rye, N.Y.; and Mrs. Natalie Seymour of New Hartford, N.Y.; and six grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow at the Georgetown Presbyterian Church in Washington and burial at Greenmount Cemetery in Baltimore.